

THE SIMPSONS

"THE TELLTALE HEAD"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
TV ANNOUNCER #1.....HARRY SHEARER
JANIE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
TEACHER.....APRIL WINCHELL
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
RADIO ANNOUNCER #1.....HARRY SHEARER
REVEREND LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
JIMBO.....APRIL WINCHELL
KEARNY.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
DOLPH.....PAMELA HAYDEN
GIRL (MOVIE).....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
BOY (MOVIE).....HANK AZARIA
USHER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
STORE CLERK.....HANK AZARIA
MR. DANDY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
RADIO ANNOUNCER #2.....DAN CASTELLANETA
POLICE CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER
MOE.....HANK AZARIA
BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA

BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER
SMITHERS.....HARRY SHEARER
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
VERY OLD MAN.....HARRY SHEARER
TV ANNOUNCER #2.....DAN CASTELLANETA
JEBEDIAH SPRINGFIELD....HARRY SHEARER
KRUSTY THE KLOWN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
TV ANNOUNCER #3.....HARRY SHEARER
REPORTER #1.....DAN CASTELLANETA
REPORTER #2.....JULIE KAVNER
REPORTER #3.....DAN CASTELLANETA
REPORTER #4.....HARRY SHEARER

THE TELLTALE HEAD

ACT 1

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - FOYER - SUNDAY MORNING

1

MARGE emerges from kitchen wearing a large hat with a very long veil.

MARGE

Kids! We're late for church! Get your
butts down here right now.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - TOP OF STAIRS

The kids emerge. MAGGIE wears a bonnet in a somber color, LISA is wearing a Sunday dress and BART wears a blazer with his hair slicked down. Lisa and Maggie scamper down the stairs followed by Bart who slides down the bannister and lands on his ass with a GRUNT.

LISA

Ready for inspection, Mom.

Marge adjusts Maggie's bonnet.

MARGE

Very nice, Maggie. And Lisa, you
look lovely. (LESS FRIENDLY)

Bart, assume the position.

Bart turns and places his hands on the wall. Marge frisks him, removing a slingshot, a comic book and dice.

MARGE

(ANNOYED MURMURS) Oh, Bart. Now where
is your father?

1 cont

FLASH PAN TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

2

HOMER, wearing a suit and tie, is standing on the couch,
jumping up and down.

HOMER

Get him! Get him! Get him!

(BEAT) Oh no.

TV ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

Phillips has broken free. He's at the
45, 50, the 40, 30, 20, 10. Touchdown.
A 64 yard run. We have got an upset in
the making!

HOMER

No we don't. Try being objective for
once in...

Marge enters and sees Homer on the couch.

MARGE

Homer, what are you doing?

HOMER

Getting ready for church.

MARGE

Let's go, Homer.

HOMER

But you don't understand, Marge. I
have fifty bucks riding on this game.

MARGE

2 cont

But Homer, you promised me...

HOMER

This isn't gambling, Marge. It's a sure thing.

TV ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

And here's the kick-off. Wolodarsky takes it at the 5 and -- oh! -- he fumbles! It's recovered in the end zone. Another touchdown!

HOMER

(ANGUISHED GRUNT)

MARGE

Homer, it's time for church.

HOMER

Oh, I don't need to go.

TV ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

We could be seeing the biggest upset since David beat Goliath.

HOMER

Who?

MARGE

Come on!

PAN with Homer as Marge drags him through the hallway to the kids, out the front door and into the car.

INT. CAR - MORNING

3

MARGE

Why should I feel like a traffic cop
every Sunday morning when I'm just
trying to get a little goodness into
the family?

Homer turns on the radio and is BLASTED by HEAVY METAL
MUSIC. Bart is bopping to an unheard rhythm.

HOMER

(IRRITATED GRUNT)

While pushing the pre-set radio stations, Homer puts the
car in reverse and recklessly backs into the street.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

We HEAR a radio going back and forth between CHURCH MUSIC
and FIERY SERMONS as the car meanders nearly out of
control.

HOMER

The game! Where is it?

INT. CAR - MORNING

Homer finally finds the game on the radio.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

Kogen fades back to pass.

HOMER

Come on, Kogen!

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

He's got Wolodarsky open in the end
zone. It's complete. Touchdown!

HOMER

All right!

Homer HONKS his horn and FLASHES his lights. Marge lets out an annoyed MURMUR. 3 cont

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, this could be the most remarkable comeback since Lazarus rose from the dead.

HOMER

Laza who?

CUT TO:

EXT. FIRST CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD - A LITTLE LATER 4

There's a sign reading "Reverend Lovejoy presiding. Pagans welcome."

The Simpsons' car is parked in front of church. Homer is in the front seat listening to the game. Marge is getting the kids out of car.

Lisa, Maggie and Bart follow Marge towards the church. Bart is still bopping to unheard music.

MARGE

C'mon everybody, we're late. Bart, I want you to promise me you'll pay attention in Sunday school. Bart? Bart? (LOUDLY) BART!!

BART

(VERY LOUDLY) You talking to me?

MARGE

(GASPS) What's this? A personal stereo? Were you going to listen to rock music in Sunday school?

BART

Maybe.

She yanks the headphones off his head. Bart's ears wiggle
and we HEAR TINNY ROCK 'N ROLL MUSIC.

4 CONT

MARGE (CONT'D)

Can you believe this, Homer?...

Homer?... Homer?

Marge turns.

MARGE'S POV

Homer is still in the car listening to the game. He is
pounding his head on the steering wheel. Marge goes back
to the car in a huff and opens the door, dropping the
headphones on the front seat.

MARGE

Homer! Were you planning on sitting in
the car till the game was over?

HOMER

Maybe.

MARGE

It's because of your irreverent
attitude that Bart thinks he can sneak
headphones into Sunday school.

HOMER'S POV

Homer's eyes widen as he sees the headphones on the front
seat looking very tempting.

MARGE

Now move it.

Marge doesn't notice as Homer grabs the headphones as they
start towards the church.

INT. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

5

Lisa and Bart's room. Bart is sitting next to MILHOUSE.

5 cont.

JANIE

Will my dog, Pepper, be there?

TEACHER

I'm sorry but the answer is no.

JANIE

(SADLY) Why not?

TEACHER

Because heaven is for people.

LISA

What about my cat, Snowball?

TEACHER

I'm sorry but the answer is no.

MILHOUSE

Will there be cavemen in heaven?

TEACHER

Certainly not. They were practically animals.

BART

What if you're in a really bad fight
and your leg gets gangrene and it has
to be amputated; will it be waiting for
you in heaven?

TEACHER

For the last time, yes!

INT. CHURCH - DAY

6

Marge, holding Maggie, and Homer sit in a pew. Homer has a beatific smile on his face.

6 (cont)

REVEREND LOVEJOY

And now I'd like to begin today's sermon which I have entitled, "Gambling, the 8th Deadly Sin." Today is Sunday, the Lord's day and yet, at this very minute, millions of Americans are not in the Lord's house, they are in their own house worshipping a false idol, professional football. According to Parade Magazine, which comes out on Sunday, they have wagered upwards of a billion -- that's with a "B" -- dollars, in pursuit of the golden calf. Oh Lord...

BEHIND HOMER'S HEAD

7

We no longer hear the Reverend. Instead we HEAR the FOOTBALL GAME Homer is listening to on the headphones. Remarkably, the Reverend's gestures coincide with the announcer's remarks.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

It's a beautiful Sunday. Perfect football weather. It's great to be in the great outdoors, and by the way, this game is brought to you by Duff Beer. You can't get enough of that wonderful Duff.

Reverend Lovejoy gestures sternly.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (O.S.)

7 (CONT)

So, they're lining up for the kick.

There's one second on the clock. If
they win, it will cap an amazing
comeback. But it's a 49 yard field
goal into the wind.

Reverend folds his hands and leads the congregation in
prayer. Homer folds his hands and prays fervently for the
field goal.

HOMER

Please please please please please.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

The kick is up...

We HEAR fans EXULTING in b.g.

BACK TO WIDE SHOT

The Reverend gestures with both his hands raised above his
head.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #1 (V.O.)

It's got the distance. It's good!

HOMER

(SHRIEKING EXULTATION) (LEAPING TO HIS
FEET AND SHOOTING BOTH FISTS OVER HIS
HEAD) It's good! It's good! It's
good!

The Reverend stops speaking and all look at Homer.

HOMER

It's good to see you all in church.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

Please be seated, Homer.

MARGE

(LOUDLY & SHARPLY) Yeah. Sit down,
Homer.

INT. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOM

Bart has his hand raised.

TEACHER

(EXASPERATED) The ventriloquist goes to
heaven, but the dummy doesn't. Bart?

BART

What about a robot with a human brain?

TEACHER

I don't know. I just don't know. All
these questions... Is a little blind
faith too much to ask?

Church BELLS begin to CHIME. Kids CHEER and race out.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

(CALLING AFTER THEM) Don't forget next
week... remember to read... (SIGHS)

INT. CHURCH - ENTRANCEWAY DAY

There is a sign reading, "Bingo, Tuesday Night. Wednesday,
Monte Carlo Night. Reno Retreat, Saturday." The Simpsons
are exiting the church. All the churchgoers shake Reverend
Lovejoy's hand. AD LIB: "Lovely sermon, Reverend." "I was
deeply moved." "See you next Sunday." Etc. Homer walks
up.

REVEREND

I seem to have struck a chord with you
today, Homer.

HOMER

Yes, you did.

7 (cont)

8

9

MARGE

(EXASPERATED NOISE)

9 (CONT)

She pulls Homer away and the family walk towards the car.

MARGE

Homer, you embarrassed us in front of
the whole congregation, and today's
sermon was one you should have really
listened to.

HOMER

What was it about?

MARGE

Gambling.

HOMER

He didn't by any chance say that under
certain circumstances it was all right,
did he?

The family gets into their car.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

10

MARGE

No! Look, I don't want to talk about
this any more in front of the kids.
Lisa, Bart, what did you two learn in
Sunday school today?

LISA

The answers to deep theological
questions.

10 (cont)

BART

Yeah. Among other things, apes can't get into heaven.

HOMER

(SADLY) What! Those cute little monkeys? That's terrible. Who told you that?

BART

Our teacher.

HOMER

(CONFUSED) I can understand how they wouldn't let in those wild jungle apes, but what about those really smart ones that live among us who roller skate and smoke cigars?

BART

Good question, Dad.

LISA

We'll raise it next week.

Bart is looking out the window and sees on a movie marquee
SPACE MUTANTS 4: THE TRILOGY CONTINUES.

BART

Oh, cool, man. Space Mutants 4. Drop me off! Drop me off!

MARGE

No way, Jose.

HOMER

Oh, Marge.

MARGE

10 (CONT)

I know what those movies are like.
Killing innocent people, eating human
flesh. (TO BART) You'll just get a lot
of bad ideas.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - A LITTLE LATER

//

Homer lies on couch in his suit. Bart enters.

BART

Hey, Dad. Can I have some money?

HOMER

(WINKS) I hope you're not planning to
see a certain movie starring certain
space mutants that a certain mother
didn't want you to see?

(CHUCKLES)

BART

(CHUCKLES) Certainly not. Can I have
five of those dollars a certain mother
didn't want you to win?

HOMER

Here you go, son. Share the wealth,
that's what I always say. There's
plenty more where that came from.

BART

Can I have twenty bucks?

HOMER

11 (cont)

(SHARPLY) Beat it, boy.

Bart takes his money and walks upstairs. As he goes towards his room, he sheds parts of his clothing. He is naked for a beat, then he puts on his regular clothes as he continues walking.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

Bart comes out of bedroom window carrying skateboard. He grabs some rope and swings a la Tarzan to the ground, which sends him zipping down the sidewalk. Bart does a series of stunning acrobatic skateboard tricks, including jumping garbage cans, rail-sliding, wallees, etc.

EXT. MOVIE THEATRE - DAY

12

In front of theatre are TWO HEAVY METAL KIDS (KEARNY and JIMBO).

JIMBO

Hey, hot dog!

BART

What?

Bart turns his head and crashes into wall with a GRUNT.

JIMBO

Nice dismount, man.

Kids LAUGH SNEERINGLY.

BART

Didn't hurt.

KEARNY

Oh yeah? Well, do it again.

BART

Nah. I might land on my face and end up looking like you.

Jimbo LAUGHS.

KEARNY

12 (CONT)

You little punk.

Kearny starts menacingly towards Bart. Jimbo stops him.

JIMBO

Leave the kid alone. I like him. He's witty. (TO BART) What's your name, man?

BART

I'm Bart Simpson.

JIMBO

This here's Kearny and I'm Jimbo.

BART

(IMPRESSED) You don't need an introduction. You're the worst kid in school.

JIMBO

Thanks.

BART

Well, I'd like to hang with you, but I'm late for the movie.

KEARNY

Oh. Well, stick around. We'll get you in at a discount.

DOLPH peeks out the side exit of the theatre.

DOLPH

Psst. Coast is clear.

KEARNY

12 (CONT)

Yeah. Only saps pay to see movies.

JIMBO

Come on.

BART

Look guys. I realize that you're my peers and that I should do what you do in order to be popular, but sneaking into a movie is practically stealing, man.

DOLPH

Practically?

JIMBO

It is stealing.

BART

Well, okay. I just wanted to make sure we weren't deluding ourselves.

Jimbo grabs Bart and yanks him inside. The theatre door closes behind them.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. THEATRE - DAY

Scene 13

The movie has begun. On screen, two teenagers are making out in a car. Bart, Jimbo, Kearny and Dolph are sitting together.

GIRL ON SCREEN

I think I hear something.

BOY ON SCREEN

Loosen up, baby. There's nobody here
but you and me.

GIRL ON SCREEN

No. I think I hear something... not
human.

Bart makes a rude NOISE by pressing his palms against his face and blowing. The kids ROAR.

BOY ON SCREEN

Don't tell me you believe those crazy
rumors about flesh-eating space
mutants.

(cont'd)

BOY ON SCREEN

Scene 13 (CONT)

Come on, Baby, let's get romantic.

GIRL ON SCREEN

Well, okay.

The teenagers on screen begin to kiss.

BART

(YELLS, SING-SONG) You'll be sorry.

JIMBO

(LAUGHS) This kid's a riot.

On screen a giant hideous SPACE MUTANT comes up from the back seat of the car.

GIRL ON SCREEN

(SCREAMS)

Tentacles wrap around both teenagers' necks, asphyxiating them gruesomely. Teenagers on screen SCREAM and make HORRIBLE CHOKING NOISES. Bart and Kids LAUGH and CHEER. Suddenly from behind them a large USHER appears like the Space Mutant did, grabbing Bart and Jimbo, who SCREAM.

USHER

You little sneaks. You're coming with me.

EXT. THEATRE

Scene 14

The kids come flying and stumbling out the front door.

USHER

Next time you little hoodlums try this, I'm calling your parents.

KEARNY

Oh yeah? Well, we don't want to see your crummy movie.

DOLPH

Scene 14 (cont)

Yeah! We'll take our business
elsewhere.

They start to leave.

JIMBO

You know, I've been kicked out of all
four space mutants movies.

BART

Wow!

INT. QUICK-E-MART

Scene 15

Bart is ordering Squishees. Kearny, Jimbo and Dolph
position themselves behind Bart in various parts of the
Quick-E-Mart.

BART

(TO CLERK) Three jumbo cherry
Squishees and one double jumbo
original flavor.

CLERK

Okay. (TO KIDS) Now, don't you kids
take anything. I'm watching you. I've
got eyes in the back of my head.

He turns to get the Squishees. While his back is turned,
the kids (except Bart) are stuffing their pockets with
things. Occasionally he turns back to check them. They
stop immediately. He brings the Squishees to Bart.

CLERK (CONT'D)

Five forty two.

Scene 15 (cont)

BART

(CALLING TO GUYS) Don't worry, guys.
It's on me. Share the wealth, that's
what I always say.

Kearny, Jimbo and Dolph file past him.

BART (CONT'D)

Guys? Guys!

Bart grabs all four Squishees (in souvenir Space Mutant
cups) and exits.

EXT. - QUICK-E-MART

Jimbo, Kearny, and Dolph are sitting on the curb, eating
cinnamon candy, looking at "PLAYDUDE" magazine, and eating
beef jerky.

BART

Hey, guys, did you swipe all that great
stuff?

JIMBO

Yeah, and you covered for us.

DOLPH

Yeah. If we got sent to J.D.H. for
this, you were goin' with us.

BART

J.D.H.? What's that?

DOLPH

Well, it ain't Junior Disneyland Hotel.

KEARNY

It's Juvenile Detention Home.

JIMBO

Juvenile detench.

Scene 15 (CONT)

DOLPH

Juvie.

BART

(GULPS)

EXT. - STREET

Scene 16

On the way to the park, the kids pass the eight foot statue of Jebediah Springfield, the city's founder, standing victoriously with his foot on a dead bear's head. The three punks toss rocks at it, hitting a different spot with a different resounding CLANG.

JIMBO

Go on, Bart.

BART

But that guy founded Springfield. He built our first schoolhouse and our first hospital out of logs. If it weren't for him all the settlers would have died in the great blizzard of forty eight.

JIMBO/DOLPH/KEARNY

So...?

BART

(HESITANTLY) So...watch me hit him right between the eyes.

He heaves a rock which strikes the statue right in the forehead.

BILL DANDY steps out of his store ("Candy Most Dandy").

Scene 16 (cont)

MR. DANDY

Hey. What are you doing there? Show a little respect, you insolent little thugs.

DOLPH

Oooh.

KEARNY

The candyman.

JIMBO

We're scared.

They walk off LAUGHING.

MR. DANDY

Hey you! Hey!

EXT. PARK - DAY

Scene 17

The kids are lying in the grass, SLURPING on their drinks, eating their stuff, looking at the clouds.

KEARNY

You know, when you look up at clouds in the sky they start looking like stuff.

DOLPH

No, they don't.

KEARNY

Yeah, they do. Like that one over there looks just like a cherry bomb.

Scene 17 (cont)

DOLPH

Hey, you're right. And look at that one. It looks like a guy with a switchblade stuck in his back.

JIMBO

That one looks like a school bus going over a cliff in flames with kids inside screaming.

(NOTE: The clouds greatly resemble the objects described.)

BART

That one looks like the statue of our town founder, Jebediah Springfield.

DOLPH

Does not.

BART

Does too. I mean without the head.

DOLPH

Oh, yeah.

JIMBO

I wish someone really would cut his ugly old head off.

BART

You do?

KEARNY

Yeah. That would be cool.

DOLPH

It sure would cheese everybody off.

Scene 17 (cont)

BART

But guys, come on. Don't you remember history class? Jebediah once killed a bear with his bare hands.

DOLPH

(SARCASTIC) Oh. Sorry.

KEARNY

We forgot how much you love Jebediah Springfield.

JIMBO

Yeah. He's your boyfriend.

BART

He is not!

Dolph and Kearny make KISSING SOUNDS at Bart.

JIMBO

Beat it, Simpson.

Bart sadly trudges back to the house.

INT. SIMPSON'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Scene 18

Homer is looking through a bowling ball catalog, entitled "THE BOWL EARTH CATALOG". He's licking his chops. Maggie sits in her highchair SUCKING and watching him.

HOMER

(TO MAGGIE) Wow! Look at this bowling ball, Maggie. Can you think of a better way to spend fifty bucks? The Pin Crusher 2000. Zebra stripes optional -- but who could resist?!

Scene 18 (cont)

MAGGIE

(SUCKS)

He turns another page and GASPS.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Now I've seen everything. Black
marblized with a liquid center. The
"Stealth Bowler" -- the pins don't know
what hit 'em.

Bart enters through front door.

BART

Dad, can I talk to you about something?

HOMER

Sure, boy. What's on your mind?

BART

Well... I was wondering... how
important is it to be popular?

HOMER

I'm glad you asked, son. Being popular
is the most important thing in the
world.

BART

So like sometimes you could do stuff
that you think is pretty bad so other
kids will like you better?

HOMER

(KIDDING) You're not talking about
killing anyone, are ya?

Scene 18 (cont.)

BART

No.

HOMER

Are you?

BART

No.

HOMER

(TOUSLING BART'S HAIR) Then run along
you little scamp. A boy without
mischievousness is like a bowling ball without
a liquid center.

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE-style music PLAYS over entire scene. Bart gets out from under the covers dressed like a Ninja warrior. He sneaks out of his room and peeks into his parents' bedroom. They are asleep -- Homer has fallen asleep with the bowling catalog over his face. Bart sneaks downstairs into the basement. He grabs a hacksaw from his father's workbench. He holds the saw up and we see it GLINT. Bart sneaks out of the house stepping on the cat's tail as he passes. As the cat YOWLS, Bart clamps his hand over its mouth and shushes it. The cat runs away.

EXT. VARIOUS STREET LOCATIONS - NIGHT

Bart sneaks along in his Ninja outfit. He passes through the deserted town. Past the Quick-E-Mart and Candy Most Dandy. He steps into a large menacing shadow. We PULL BACK to REVEAL he is in the shadow of Jebediah Springfield.

BART'S POV

We see the statue in forced perspective. We ZOOM onto its head.

BART

He gets a determined expression, climbs up the statue and starts to saw its neck. SFX SAWING.

Scene 18 (cont)

WIDER SHOT OF SQUARE

Bart continues to saw.

LONG SHOT OF SPRINGFIELD. We HEAR some faint SAWING NOISES and then the resonating CLANG of the unseen head hitting the ground and rolling. Immediately dogs start BARKING, lights all over town go on and townspeople are heard AD LIBBING "What was that?", "Did you hear that?", "I think I heard something", etc. After a beat, the townspeople AD LIB "It was nothing", "You must have been dreaming", "Go back to sleep." All lights go off in town.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - MORNING

19

We are CLOSE UP on Bart, who is sleeping. Some morning light crosses his face. He awakens. He woozily turns and SCREAMS as he reacts to something O.S. We PULL BACK revealing Jebediah Springfield's head on the pillow next to him.

MARGE (O.S.)

Bart, are you all right?

BART

Oh yeah. Top of the world, Ma.

MARGE (O.S.)

Well then come down for breakfast.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

The radio is PLAYING Mambo music. Homer is eating a sausage with his fingers, dipping it in egg yolk and then dropping it down his gullet. He is still reading his bowling catalog.

HOMER

Oooh. Look at this one. "The Hammer of Thor. It will send your pins to (WITH DIFFICULTY) Valhalla." Lisa?

LISA

Valhalla is where Vikings go when they die.

HOMER

19 (CONT)

Ooooh, that is some ball.

Bart enters and puts down his knapsack with a resounding THUD. It is obvious to us that the head of the statue is inside.

20

BART

Good morning, everybody.

RADIO ANNOUNCER #3 (V.O.)

We interrupt "Mambo in the Morning" to bring you this special news bulletin. The statue of Jebediah Springfield, our illustrious town founder, was brutally decapitated last night in an act of senseless vandalism. We now go live to Police Chief Wiggum at City Hall.

On the radio there is an angry DIN in the b.g.

POLICE CHIEF WIGGUM (V.O.)

We have no witnesses, no suspects and no leads. If anyone has any information, please dial "oh" and ask for the police. That number again, "oh."

RADIO ANNOUNCER #3 (V.O.)

Stay tuned to this station for further developments as they break.

Upbeat MAMBO MUSIC continues. Over the preceding announcement the Simpsons all look horrified except for Bart, who looks a little taken aback.

21

21 (cont)

HOMER

This is horrible. I can't eat... much more. (TAKES ANOTHER BITE) No, I can't eat at all.

MARGE

What's this world coming to?

BART

Come on, it's just a statue.

MARGE

It's a statue of the trailblazing founder of our town.

LISA

A symbol of what we can all do if we put our minds to it.

HOMER

Just a statue! Is the Statue of Liberty just a statue? Is the Leaning Tower of Pisa just a statue?

HONKING outside.

BART

Uh-oh. School bus.

Lisa sits stunned at the table.

BART (CONT'D)

C'mon Lis. School bus.

Bart grabs his heavy knapsack and exits.

MARGE

21 (cont)

Go on, Lisa. We've all got to be brave
just like Jebediah when he killed that
bear.

Lisa sadly gets up and follows Bart out the door. Marge
steps over to Homer and puts her arm around him to comfort
him.

MARGE

There, there, dear.

INT. SCHOOL BUS - MORNING

22

Bart and Lisa get on the bus. OTTO is leaning over the
wheel misty-eyed. The other KIDS on the bus AD LIB:
"What's the matter, Otto?", "Otto, are you okay?", "Get it
together, Otto" etc. Otto removes his headphones.

OTTO

Little dudes, but I've got a real
bummer to lay on you. Some dude sawed
off Jebediah Springfield's head.
School's been cancelled. Go back to
your homes. Get off the bus. Use the
emergency exit. I need to be alone.

The kids file off the back of the bus.

LISA

There, there, Otto.

BART

I didn't know you felt that way, man.

OTTO

(TO HIMSELF) I'll just have to remember
him the way he was.

Otto pulls up his shirt to reveal a tattoo of Jebediah Springfield's statue on his stomach.

INT. MOE'S TAVERN - LATER

23

MOE

Come on everybody. We have to get on with our lives. Let's try and put this tragedy behind us.

BARNEY

You're right, Moe. A beer, please, and make sure there's a head on it.

MOE

Ohhhh. (BEGINS SOBBING)

BARNEY

(REALIZING) I didn't mean it. Me and my big mouth.

EXT. OLD FOLK'S HOME - DAY

24

The flag is at half mast. A dozen OLD MEN sit on the porch shaking their heads and muttering to themselves. AD LIB: "It's a crime", "What's this world coming to", etc.

GRAMPA

I've said it before and I'll say it again: Hell in a handbasket. I hope they find the punk who did this and I hope they cut his head off.

All the old men AD LIB agreement.

INT. CANDY MOST DANDY - DAY

Mr. Dandy is mindlessly eating candy to cheer himself up. There is a big pile of candy boxes behind him. He is watching a small portable television. We see an image of the headless statue. A CROWD of hundreds stands vigil outside at the statue.

TV ANNOUNCER #2

24 (CONT)

The people of Springfield are stunned.

They are staggering through the streets

as if they lost their own heads.

We PULL BACK revealing that although Mr. Dandy is watching the scene on television, the actual scene is visible in the big picture window behind him.

During the above, Bart has crossed through the square outside carrying his knapsack. He looks around nervously at the pain he has wrought.

EXT. PARK - DAY

25

Jimbo, Dolph and Kearny are lying on the grass next to a "KEEP OFF THE GRASS" sign.

JIMBO

Boy, I'd sure love to meet the guy that cut off the head of that statue.

DOLPH

Yeah, I wish he were here right now.

Bart walks up.

BART

Hi guys. What's up?

JIMBO

We were just saying we'd love to meet the guy who cut off the head of that statue.

DOLPH

Yeah, we wish he were here right now.

BART

Oh, really?

He starts to unzip his knapsack.

KEARNY

25 (cont)

Yeah, we'd break every bone in his
stupid, little body.

Jimbo and Dolph AD LIB agreement.

BART

What? (ZIPS THE BAG SHUT) But
yesterday didn't you say it would be
cool to cut off the head and really
cheese everybody off?

DOLPH

I don't remember what I said yesterday.

KEARNY

That was just cloud talk, man.

JIMBO

Throwing rocks at a statue is one
thing, but I would never cut the head
off of a guy who was tough enough to
ice a bear with his bare hands.

JIMBO

So what's in the bag, Bart?

A disembodied VOICE comes from Bart's knapsack. It rustles
slightly.

JEBEDIAH (FROM INSIDE BAG)

My head.

Bart looks at the knapsack and GASPS.

JIMBO

I said, what's in the bag, Bart?

JEBEDIAH (FROM INSIDE BAG)

25 (CON)

Go ahead, Bart. Tell them. It's the head of Jebediah Springfield.

BART

(TERRIFIED; TO BAG) It is not.

JIMBO

What's wrong with you, Simpson?

Bart pales.

BART

(SHAKEN) Nothing. I gotta go.

EXT. STREET

26

Bart nervously heads home crossing back through the vigil, past the headless statue. Hundreds of townsfolk carry lighted candles.

JEBEDIAH (FROM INSIDE BAG)

Look what you've done. You wanted to be popular. Now you are the most hated boy in town.

BART

You are not really talking to me. You're just my overactive imagination.

JEBEDIAH (FROM INSIDE BAG)

I am, am I? If I had a body, I would kill you with my bare hands. I killed a bear with my bare hands, you know.

BART

I know...

26 (cont)

PAN with Bart has he crosses past Burns, Smithers, Moe and Dandy, among the other mourners. They look at him suspiciously.

BART (CONT'D)

I know... Shut up... I wanted them to like me.

BURNS

(TO HIMSELF) Ummm, the child seems rattled.

SMITHERS

Can you blame him?

BURNS

No. No, I can't. (BREAKING DOWN) Oh, Jebediah, Jebediah. Why?

SMITHERS

There, there, Mr. Burns. Just blow.

Smithers puts a tissue up to Burns' nose, who blows. SFX: HONKING sound.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

27

Bart crosses through Living Room. Lisa and Maggie, clutching her bankey, are watching "Krusty The Clown" on TV.

LISA

Hey Bart, where you going?

BART

To my room.

LISA

Why don't you watch "Krusty The Clown"?

BART

No thanks.

LISA

27 (low-)

Come on, Bart. We can all use a few
laughs right now.

Bart walks over to the TV.

ON TV

28

KRUSTY is talking to SIDESHOW BOB, a wildman of Borneo-type
who talks through the use of a slide whistle.

KRUSTY

Sideshow Bob, did you hear the news
about Jebediah Springfield's head?

SIDESHOW BOB

(BLOWS SLIDE WHISTLE DOWN)

KRUSTY

But it's okay. We'll find the bad
person who did it.

SIDESHOW BOB

(BLOWS SLIDE WHISTLE UP)

KRUSTY

And that's where you come in, boys and
girls. There is someone out there who
has committed an atrocity. If you know
who it is, I don't care if it's your
brother, your sister, your daddy, your
mommy, or whoever -- turn them in...
and Krusty will send you a free slide
whistle just like Sideshow Bob's.

SIDESHOW BOB

28 (cont)

(BLOWS HIS WHISTLE UP AND DOWN
ENTHUSIASTICALLY)

Bart drops his knapsack, which hits the ground with a
resounding THUD.

JEBEDIAH (FROM INSIDE BAG)

Ow!

Bart grabs the knapsack and runs out into the backyard.

EXT. SIMPSONS' BACKYARD

29

Bart is digging a hole in the ground in which to bury the
head.

JEBEDIAH

I'd never have founded this town if I'd
known a little punk like you was going
to come along.

BART

Please. Leave me alone. I said I'm
sorry.

JEBEDIAH

Wait a minute. I hope you're not
planning to do what I think you're
doing.

BART

Sorry, man. It's either you or me.

29 (cont)

JEBEDIAH

You know, Bart, you don't have to found a town to be a hero. Sometimes a hero can be a young boy with the courage to stand up and admit that he's made a mistake.

BART

Thanks. I'll remember that

Bart pushes the head in the hole. Lisa comes out of the house.

LISA

What are you burying this time?

Lisa sees the head and SHRIEKS. Bart clamps his hand over her mouth.

BART

Oh, Lisa. I made a terrible, terrible mistake. It's such a relief to be able to talk to somebody about this... besides him.

LISA

Bart, it's entirely up to you whether you tell Mom and Dad, but in six minutes I'm going to tell them myself.

Lisa turns on her heel and returns to the house. Bart MOANS.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

30

Marge, Lisa, Maggie, and Homer are watching TV.

ON TV

30 (cont)

We see a title card on TV: "SPRINGFIELD - A CITY HELD
HOSTAGE. DAY ONE." MUSIC: SPRIGHTLY BANJO

TV ANNOUNCER #3 (V.O.)

Jebediah Obediah Zachariah Jedediah

Springfield came West in 1838.

ON TV

We see an ACTOR in a coonskin cap, chopping wood...a
trailblazer. A MAN in an ill-fitting bear suit steps out
of the woods, and GROWLS. Springfield throws his hatchet
at him and misses. He runs at the bear tackling him, and
starts to wrestle him on the ground. The bear suit rips
slightly. (We superimpose "Dramatization" over the above.)

TV ANNOUNCER #3 (V.O.)

Along the way he met a ferocious bear

and killed him with his bare hands.

Although modern historians recently

uncovered evidence that the bear, in

fact, probably killed him. But whether

bear killed man, or man killed bear, a

burgeoning town, Springfield, was born.

ON TV - WESTERN TOWN

CUT TO:

Shot of completed statue, before its mutilation.

TV ANNOUNCER #3 (V.O.)

A town with a hero until last night,

when it became a town with a hero

without a head.

CUT TO:

Shot of people milling around the headless statute.

30 (cont)

ANNOUNCER

The beleaguered Chief of the
Springfield Police Department, Abner
Wiggum.

CUT TO:

Wiggum by the statue, besieged by reporters

31

REPORTER #1

Do you suspect terrorists?

REPORTER #2

A satanic cult?

REPORTER #3

Hippies?

REPORTER #4

Some jerk with a hacksaw?

WIGGUM

No, this is the work of a criminal
mastermind as fiendishly diabolical as
he is cunningly sinister.

BACK TO SIMPSON LIVING ROOM

32

Bart walks in carrying the head.

BART

Mom, Dad, I have something to tell you.

Marge GASPS.

HOMER

(MAD) I knew it all along.

Homer turns off the TV set and goes for Bart.

32 (CONT)

MARGE

Oh no, Homer. Don't kill him. You're responsible for this, too.

HOMER

What?

MARGE

Think of the example you set. You bet on football games, and you listen to the radio in church, and you spend too much time at that tavern...

HOMER

(SADLY) And I'm quick to anger.

BART

There's an understatement.

HOMER

(ANGRY) Bart!

MARGE

Homer!

HOMER

Sorry. (TO BART) C'mon, Bart. Let's take that head thing back to the authorities.

BART

But Dad, they'll fry me.

HOMER

No. You're just a young boy who fell in with a bad element... me. Come on, boy.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Homer and Bart are walking down the street carrying the head.

HOMER

You know, Bart, when I was your age, I
pulled a few boners, but I think you'll
find that people are pretty decent if
you give them half...

As they turn the corner, we see Burns, Smithers, Grampa, Principal Skinner, Krusty, Sideshow Bob, Moe, Monroe, Mrs. Krabappel and Barney being lead by Reverend Lovejoy. They are carrying torches and pitchforks and carrying placards which have a picture of Jebediah's head and reads "Have you seen me?"

BURNS

Look, there it is! The head!

MOE

Kill 'em!

The MOB chase Homer and Bart. The Mob AD LIB: "Let's get 'em", "After them", "String 'em up", etc.

Homer and Bart SCREAM and run.

EXT. STREET - VARIOUS ANGLES - NIGHT

The angry mob chases Homer and Bart.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT

Homer and Bart are just ahead of the angry mob. They see giant shadows of the approaching mob.

HOMER

Trapped!

BART

33 (cont)

No! In there!

Bart runs to the statue and jumps inside. Homer follows diving headfirst and getting stuck at the waist.

INT. STATUE

Bart pulls on Homer.

BART

Am I hurting you, Dad?

HOMER

Not as bad as they will, boy! Keep pulling!

EXT. STATUE

34

Homer is pulled inside. SFX: SUCTIONING THWOP. A beat later, Homer sticks his head out, sees the approaching crowd and reacts with HORROR. He grabs the head of Jebediah Springfield and replaces it on the statue's shoulders.

EXT. STATUE

The mob approaches angrily. They see the head is back in place and grow calm.

MOE

Look, everybody.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

The head is back.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

It's a miracle.

MONROE

It's beautiful.

SIDESHOW BOB

(BLOWS WHISTLE)

BURNS

I love you, Smithers.

SMITHERS

The feeling is more than mutual, sir.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - SUNRISE

The birds are CHIRPING. The square is empty.

INT. STATUE

BART

Dad, Dad. Wake up.

HOMER

(DROWSILY) Come on. Just another
hour, son.

BART

Dad, please.

EXT. STATUE - EARLY MORNING

We hear SNORING.

BART

C'mon, Dad. Wake up... Dad... Aw...
man...

The statue rolls its eyes.

FADE OUT

THE END

34 (cont)

35